

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE HELD IN  
THE WRITING ROOM OF THE HOTEL NELSON SUNDAY 23 JULY  
AND MONDAY 24 JULY 1961 COMMENCING AT 8 p.m. ON  
THE FORMER DATE

PRESENT:- Messrs J.R. Barber (Chairman), J.W. Fraser, J.D. Lorimer, J.K. Bray, J.I. Jay, D.F. Penrose, and the General Secretary (Mr R.A. Fraser)

ATTENDING:- Attending at the request of the Executive was Mr J. McFadzien, Editor of the "N.Z. Beekeeper".

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:- RESOLVED (Lorimer/Penrose) "That the minutes of the meetings held in Wellington on 28 February and 1 March, 1961 as circulated to the Executive be treated as read and adopted."

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS:- The Secretary tabled the audited accounts of the Association for the year ended 31 May 1961 and also read the Auditor's separate report in relation to the accounts. The Auditor recommended that all items of expenditure be listed and be presented with vouchers to the General Executive for endorsement at its meetings as confirmation of the General Secretary's action in meeting the Association's various items of expenditure. RESOLVED (Fraser/Bray) "That the Auditor's recommendation in connection with confirmation of expenditure be adopted and that he be notified to this effect forthwith."

In connection with the annual accounts various items of income and expenditure were considered by members in relation to last years figures. After lengthy discussion of some items it was RESOLVED (Barber/Bray) "That the annual accounts of the Association be received and adopted."

ANNUAL REPORT:- The Secretary read the draft annual report and discussion ensued on various passages. RESOLVED (Fraser/Penrose) "That the annual report be approved for presentation to Conference."

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME:- The Remit and Order Paper for Conference were given consideration by members and the order for presentation of various remits considered. Mr J.W. Fraser drew attention to the unfortunate omission of Mr T.E. Pearson, the Associations representative on the Agricultural Chemicals Bd. from the list of official speakers invited to address Conference. Members were in agreement and it was RESOLVED (Fraser/Bray) "That Mr T.E. Pearson be invited to speak at the start of the afternoon session on the first day of Conference and that he be suitably introduced by the Chairman."

APIARY REGISTRATION FEE AND REMIT NO. 2:- The Secretary reviewed the action which he had taken in the above matter and his reasons therefore. He sought the Executive's approval for a time allowance of up to half a day for the consideration of remit No. 2. Members expressed their satisfaction with the manner in which remit No. 2 had been framed on their behalf and on receipt of assurances that adequate preparation had been made for the suitable introduction of the matter enabling proper decision by the study groups the request was agreed to.

EDITOR'S REPORT ON JOURNAL:- Mr J. McFadzien reported upon many aspects in connection with the preparation and production of the Journal and sought the opinion of the Executive as to whether he was justified in withholding publication and circulation for stop press reports where the Honey Marketing Authority or Executive were holding meetings close to the normal publication date. He also mentioned that on special occasions where he had adopted this practice in the past the earliest possible distribution of the Journal had been facilitated through the co-operation of the Manager of the Herald Printing Company, Mr Dawson. The Executive considered that when important matters were likely to be under consideration by either the Executive or the Authority that the withholding of distribution for inclusion of important stop press messages was justified. It was further RESOLVED (Fraser/Lorimer) "That a letter of appreciation be sent to the Manager of the Herald Printing Works for his particular co-operation with the Editor in expediting the earliest possible release of the Journal on such occasions in the past."

Amongst other matters reported upon by the Editor was the fact that he had, of his own volition, undertaken to act as correspondent to the world wide technical journal "Bee World" on general developments in the industry in New Zealand from time to time.

RESOLVED (Fraser/Jay) "That this Executive congratulates the Editor on the continued high standard of the Journal and commend him for his initiative in undertaking various projects of importance to the Association from time to time."

**INSERT (See Overleaf)**

LIFE MEMBERSHIP NOMINATIONS:- Correspondence was received from the South Auckland Branch sponsoring Messrs C.R. Paterson and E.D. Williams for life membership in the Association. A suitable dossier on the background of service rendered by Mr Paterson to the industry was presented to the Branch in support of its nomination and in the case of Mr E.D. Williams reference was made to outstanding service with which the Executive was well acquainted. Each nomination was considered separately by the Executive and it was RESOLVED (Lorimer/Penrose) "That the Executive endorses the nomination of Mr C.R. Paterson. It was further RESOLVED (Fraser/Jay) "That the nomination of Mr E.D. Williams for life membership in the Association be endorsed

Mr Fraser also drew attention to the fact that Mr McFadzier had recently been appointed Federated Farmers' representative on the Taeri High School Board; an honour to both himself and to the industry.

RESOLVED (Fraser/Bray) "That the President prepare a suitable message of congratulations and acknowledgement and that the Editor be instructed to print same in the next issue of the "N.Z. Beekeeper."

ULTIMATE OWNERSHIP OF H.M.A. ASSETS:- The Secretary read a reply just to hand from the Minister of Agriculture in response to last <sup>year's</sup> Conference's remit. The Minister indicated that he was not prepared to consider any such proposal while the Authority was constituted as at present and recommended that the Association closely examine the implications of its proposal before requesting further reconsideration of the matter.

EXEMPTION OF PACKS EXCEEDING 10LBS WEIGHT FROM SEALS LEVY:- A reply from the Minister of Agriculture was also read by the Secretary in connection with this matter. It was noted with pleasure that the Minister had seen fit to accede to the industry's request in this regard.

H.M.A. ELECTIONS:- Advice was to hand from the Minister to the effect that the Executive's request for a shortening of the period of voting by two weeks was approved. The Secretary advised that his latest information from the legal office of the Department of Agriculture was that the necessary amendment to the regulations was only awaiting the approval of the Executive Council before gazetting. In connection with the Elections the Secretary also reported upon arrangements which he had made with the Returning Officer for the wider distribution of the roll. Mention was also made of the disfranchisement of Milburn Apiaries Ltd. by the Returning Officer over a technical interpretation of the Regulations Act. Steps were in train to remedy the matter.

ADJOURNMENT:- After further general discussion the meeting adjourned at 12.30 a.m. on Monday, 24 July.

RESUMPTION:- The meeting resumed at 9.15 a.m. on Monday 24 July.

H.M.A. REPORT:- The President, as the Executive's acknowledged representative on the Honey Marketing Authority, reviewed and elaborated upon his previous written reports of the Authority's meetings and these were discussed at length. The relevant subject of the Department of Agriculture's handling of the case of A.F.B. Honey on account of Mr Jay, was also discussed.

MEETING WITH NELSON BRANCH REPRESENTATIVE:- At 10.30 a.m. Messrs L.T. Cropp, J.A. Bell and A.V. Hewlett waited upon the Executive and outlined the problems which beekeepers in the area had been facing over recent years contributing to the serious decline of beekeeping in the area and the difficulties experienced by the Branch. Problems associated with the obtaining of adequate returns from orchardists for pollination services rendered were discussed at some length and the Executive promised to initiate discussions with the Fruitgrowers' Federation with a view to resolving some of the problems involved. The deputation withdrew at 11 a.m.

MEETING WITH H.M.A. REPRESENTATIVES:- At 11 a.m. the meeting received Messrs G.E. Gumbrell, Chairman, N.Z. Honey Marketing Authority and C.T. Gosse, Manager of the Authority.

VOTING QUALIFICATIONS:- The question of the disqualification of Mill Stream Apiaries was again discussed and Messrs Gumbrell and Gosse were acquainted with the action taken by the General Secretary in an endeavour to have the injustice remedied.

H.M.A. REPORT:- Mr Barber expressed his apologies to Mr Gumbrell for having omitted an important resolution in his report to the Executive on the last H.M.A. Meeting. He stated that in future he would delay his report until he had received the authentic minutes of the meeting.

TAPE RECORDERS AT CONFERENCE:- Mr Gumbrell said he understood that at least one tape recorder was to be used by delegates attending Conference. He stated that as far as he personally was concerned he objected to the use of tape recorders in view

of the fact that tapes could be cut, edited and used for improper purposes by unscrupulous people; also on the count that some matters which he may feel disposed to mention were in the nature of confidential remarks which were not available for publication. It was decided that in appropriate cases business be taken in committee or else with recorders barred by Conference agreement.

HEALTH REGULATIONS:- Mr Gumbrell alluded to certain sub-standard honey packs which were appearing on the market contrary to the health regulations. He considered that in many respects the existing health regulations were unrealistic by virtue of the impossibly high standard required and suggested that an approach be made to the Health Department for a re-drafting of the health regulations to make them more realistic under actual honey production conditions. In discussion it was agreed that such a review might be unwise and that if blatant cases of poor packs came under notice then a better procedure would be to advise the retailer concerned with a view to having it removed from the market.

COSTING INFORMATION:- Mr Gumbrell felt that many beekeeper were ignorant of the true production costs of honey and/or packing costs and this led to unwise price cutting. After discussion it was agreed that the Editor should publish an article designed to give enlightenment on actual costs of production and packing and the alternative avenues of marketing.

ADMINISTRATION:- The Authority representative suggested that the industry work might be more clearly apportioned between the Authority and the Association to avoid possible overlapping and confusion. Against this it was held that co-operation on certain topics gives greater weight to representations and it was generally agreed that the position would evolve gradually.

Thanks and appreciation for co-operation during the year were mutually expressed by Mr Gumbrell on behalf of the Authority and Mr Barber on behalf of the Association before the deputation withdrew.

The meeting was adjourned at 12.30 p.m.

RECORDED INTERVIEW AND PREPARED TALK ON POLLINATION:- During the luncheon recess Messrs Bray, Barber, Fraser and the General Secretary together with Messrs Gumbrell and Gosse of the Honey Marketing Authority visited the N.Z.B.S. station 2XN for a recorded radio interview following which Mr Bray delivered a prepared address on pollination for the Broadcasting Service.

RESUMPTION:- 2 P.M.

MEETING WITH DEPARTMENTAL OFFICERS:- At the request of the Director-General of Agriculture arrangement had been made for discussions in committee with Departmental Officers at 2 P.M. in connection with articles published by Mr R.S. Walshe, when honey grader, on the addition of water to low specific gravity honey in the course of packing and processing for sale. Prior to receiving the Officers at 2 p.m. Executive members had a brief discussion on various matters which they desired to discuss with the Director of Horticulture and the Superintendent of Beekeeping, in addition to the main topic of the addition of water to honey.

At 2 p.m. Mr A.M.W. Greig, Director of Horticulture was invited into the meeting. He was asked why the Director-General had requested this further meeting on the question of adding water to honey and what it was hoped to achieve in view of the fact that the Executive

had previously discussed this matter with the Department and had in no way changed its opinion since. Any suggestion that water should be added to honey was viewed with disfavour and the Executive had considered the topic closed after the previous meeting. Mr Greig stated that further reports which he had received from his Departmental Officers led him to believe that the Executive was not fully acquainted with the facts and accordingly the Director felt that further discussions with the Executive were called for. The Executive was reluctant to enter into further discussion on the matter but finally agreed when it was pointed out that a further meeting had been promised to the Director-General following receipt of his letter dated 5 July and that to refuse a re-hearing at this late stage would be a grave discourtesy. At this juncture Mr Greig sought leave to introduce the following officers of the Department to the meeting:- Mr E. Smaellie, Superintendant of beekeeping, Mr T. Palmer-Jones, Chief Scientific Officer, Wallaceville Research Station, Mr R.S. Walshe, former honey grader, and Mr C.R. Paterson, Apiculturist. Discussion then ensued "in committee" as requested.

At the termination of the discussion the Executive re-affirmed its decision "that the introduction of water into honey at the time of or prior to packing for sale under any circumstances was neither necessary nor desirable."

The meeting then reverted to open session and a number of matters of mutual interest to the Department and the Industry were discussed as follows:-

TUTU AND POISONED HONEY:- Mr Smaellie advised that the Department was establishing a number of test apiaries on the outer fringes of the area closed for honey production in the Bay of Plenty with a view to checking on the correctness of the boundaries established to prevent the production of honey from the poisonous tutu tree. He advised that the results of this investigation would be made known to the Association and that such further boundary alterations as were necessary would be made by the Department as a matter of course. Mr Paterson advised that the State Hydro Department proposed planting tutu around the new lakes and this could well constitute a possible new source of poisonous honey if it became infested with the "passion-vine hopper". It was explained that this insect produced a poisonous honey dew which was attractive to the honey bee causing poisonous honey to be produced.

It was RESOLVED "That the support of Federated Farmers be sought in urging that the State Hydro Department use some alternative plant in its programme of controlling erosion." (Fraser/Bray). It was further RESOLVED "That the Department be asked to investigate entomological methods of controlling the passion-vine hopper."

CONTROL OF BACILLUS LARVAE:- Lengthy discussion took place on the apparently wide-spread incidence of this disease throughout the country and on the need for the strongest possible measures to bring it under control or completely eradicate it. Mr Smaellie stated that it was obvious to the Department that a number of beekeepers were using sulfa drugs and anti-biotics such as terramycin in an effort to control B.L. Neither of these materials were effective in dealing with the disease and their use did in fact seriously endanger the whole of a beekeepers production. Further the use of sulfa drugs was in direct contravention of the Health Regulations and the Department was firmly committed to invoking the full powers and penalties of the Health Act in dealing with any producer who was foolish enough to continue with their use. In discussion it was stated that sulfa could be detected in honey samples and that the Department intended to take samples for testing. If sulfa was detected the honey would be condemned. If sulfa had been used it would be possible to detect its presence in the honey even after a number of years.

INSPECTION OF COMMERCIAL APIARIES:- Mr Lorimer asked that instructors endeavour to do inspection work in commercial apiaries in the spring where possible. Mr Smaellie replied that the Departmental Officers always endeavoured to carry out their work at a time when least inconvenience would be caused to producers but it was impossible to guarantee that all inspection work would be carried out in the spring without seriously curtailing the effectiveness of the inspection programme.

DISEASE CONTROL:- Before the meeting with Departmental Officers concluded, Mr Greig, Director of Horticulture suggested that if the Association desired a determined crusade against disease the most effective course to follow would be to request the Minister to convene a joint meeting between Departmental Officers and the Executive to iron out mutual problems.

The Officers were thanked for their attendance before they withdrew.

TREATMENT OF NOSEMA DISEASE:- The Secretary read correspondence which he had had with Messrs Kingsley & Keith Chemicals Ltd. England concerning that Company's proposals to introduce fumidil onto the New Zealand market for the treatment of nosema disease. As a result of the correspondence with the firm and with Mr T. Palmer-Jones, Principal Research Officer in Apiculture, Department of Agriculture, the firms marketing plans had been delayed pending a report on investigations to be carried out by the Wallaceville Animal Research Station. Members expressed agreement with the action which had been taken.

EFFECT OF HORMONE WEEDKILLERS ON BEES:- The report of the Apiary Technical Committee of the Agricultural Chemicals Board following an investigation into the effect of hormone weedkillers on bees was reviewed. As Mr T.E. Pearson, Representative on the Agricultural Chemicals Board would be addressing Conference on this and other matters it was decided that no further action be taken meantime.

DECONTROL OF HONEY PRICES:- Investigations made and meetings held with the Ministers of Agriculture and Industries & Commerce on this topic were reviewed but it was agreed that as Government had not yet made a decision on the issue further action by the Executive was unnecessary.

1961 HONEY CROP SURVEY:- The Secretary tabled a report covering the results of the above survey and the results were evaluated in subsequent discussion. Of 617 questionnaires issued only 174 were returned representing 68,382 hives. Average production therefrom was calculated as 74.3 lbs. per hive. On the advisability of conducting a further survey next year, Mr McFadzien commented:-

1. That it now appeared there was little chance of ever obtaining a 100% response to the questionnaire, without which the obtaining of an accurate guide to seasonal production as an aid to better marketing would be impossible.
2. That from the replies received in this last survey the Department of Agriculture's annual production forecast based on the investigations of its apiary staff appeared to be substantially correct.

DUTY ON IMPORTED CARTON CARD:- Correspondence from the Controller of Customs was tabled indicating that following Association's objection to the imposition of a 30% tariff the Department had now decided to permit the entry of imported carton card of a caliper not exceeding .010 as used in the manufacture of honey cartons free from duty irrespective of source. Members expressed satisfaction at this reply.

ERIAL IDENTIFICATION OF HIVES:- The Director of Civil Aviation advised that following further investigations into the suggestion that hives be painted a distinctive colour to enable ready identification from the air and following receipt of the Association's comments on this proposal the suggestion had now been abandoned by the Air Department.

UBLIC RISK INSURANCE ON APIARIES:- The Secretary reported upon negotiations with N.Z. Insurance Co. Ltd. for an extension of the limit of indemnity in respect of the Association's bulk policy covering apiarists public liability for damage or injury caused by bees. He advised that the limit of indemnity had been raised to £5000 in respect of any one claim as opposed to the present cover of £500 and further that the Company would make a retrospective reduction in the total premium payable per annum to a sum of £36, this to apply as from 31 May 1960. He was at present awaiting only written confirmation from the Company. He further advised that he had initiated discussions with the Company on the possibility of meeting all of an apiarists public liability to embrace premises and occupiers risk, loss of livestock through farmers gates being left open, fire and explosion risk where smokers are being used on other peoples property etc. etc. He indicated that as a result of discussions held so far the Company considered that it would be in a position to offer an all-embracing public liability cover to beekeepers at extremely favourable rates if it were arranged through the Association as was the case at present. The premium would be substantially higher than the present 1/3d. per apiary but still substantially less than if beekeepers arranged their own public liability covers separately to meet these extra contingencies. He sought a direction from the Executive as to whether they wished him to proceed further in negotiations with the Company. RESOLVED (Lorimer/Penrose) "That the General Secretary be empowered to continue negotiation with the N.Z. Insurance Company with a view to that Company formulating firm proposals for the widening of the present public liability cover to embrace all of a beekeepers needs for protection in this insurance field." The question of the Association being able to meet all of a beekeepers insurance needs was also discussed and the Secretary authorised to continue with his preliminary discussions with the Company to see whether a workable scheme could be devised which would enable beekeepers to obtain the widest possible cover in respect of fire, accident, workers compensation, motor vehicle and other insurance on better terms than at present available to individuals.

ISTORY OF N.Z. BEEKEEPING:- Further to the invitation extended by the Executive to Mr W.B. Bray, to compile, with the Association's assistance, some memoirs of early days in N.Z. Beekeeping a reply was received and read from Mr Bray indicating that because of his present state of health and other commitments on his time which he considered more important he would be unable to accede to the Executive's invitation. RESOLVED (Fraser/Lorimer) "That Mr Bray's letter be received. Further, that the General Secretary write thanking him for his reply; regretting that he was not able to be at this Conference and expressing the Executive's best wishes for his future health."

OSTS OF PRODUCTION:- Mr J.K. Bray drew attention to the last revision of the cost-of-production figures carried out by the Department of Agriculture. He pointed out that the price at present permitted under the existing honey price order exceeded the allowances made in the cost-of-production survey and he warned against any hasty action in applying for a new price order in the event of honey being not decontrolled.

AYMENTS FOR ENDORSEMENT:- In line with the auditors suggestion, the Secretary tabled a list of accounts paid for the period 1 June to 21 July with vouchers attached, for which confirmation was required.

RESOLVED (Bray/Fraser) "That accounts totalling £22. 14. 9. represented by vouchers Nos. 777 to 780 inclusive as tabled be endorsed for payment and that the Secretary's action in effecting prior payment be confirmed."

GENERAL:-

Various items of general business were discussed briefly before the meeting terminated at 5.45 p.m.

CONFIRMED

DATE 16th Oct. 1961 .....CHAIRMAN J. R. Barber .....

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE DOMINION EXECUTIVE HELD IN THE  
ANTE-ROOM OF THE GRAND HOTEL, WELLINGTON ON 15TH, 16TH  
17TH & 18TH OCTOBER, 1961 COMMENCING AT 8 P.M. ON  
THE FORMER DATE.

Messrs J.R. Barber (Chairman), J.K. Bray, J.D. Lorimer, J.W. Fraser, D.F. Penrose, T.S. Wheeler and the General Secretary (Mr R.A. Fraser.)

At the request of the Executive Mr J. McFadzien, Editor of the "N.Z. Beekeeper" was also in attendance but did not arrive at the meeting until 8.30 p.m.

ARVAE MEETING WITH DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE: The Chairman reminded members that the principal reason for their attendance in Wellington at this time was for a joint meeting with the Department of Agriculture and the Executive's instigation to discuss the problem of Bacillus Larvae disease in New Zealand and to endeavour to formulate improved programmes of inspection with a view to more adequate control and ultimate eradication. The immediate business before the Executive was the consideration of items for inclusion in the Agenda for the joint meeting with the Department. Before proceeding on this matter the following resolution was carried unanimously:- RESOLVED (Fraser/Penrose) "That this Executive endorses the Secretary's action in pressing for the meeting with the Department and expresses its agreement with the line and letter of his representations on our behalf."

Lengthy discussion ensued as to the method of approach to the disease problem and to the specific items in connection with any eradication programme which should be insisted upon as discussion points with the Department. As a result of this consideration agreement was reached on the following points:-

- (1) Recognition should be given to the fact that beekeepers are primarily responsible for the detection and eradication of disease in their own apiaries and that more attention should be paid by the beekeeper to the requirements of the Act that he not only inspect for disease but on its detection notify the Department within seven days.
- (2) As a means towards ensuring inspection and reporting the Executive recommend to the joint meeting that regulations be promulgated under the Act requiring every registered beekeeper to furnish the Department of Agriculture with a return twice yearly advising the date on which he last inspected his hives and the condition of the apiaries as to disease incidence.
- (3) That before permits be issued by the Department of Agriculture for the removal of hives or equipment following a sale or other disposition all such equipment should be inspected by an Inspector authorised under the Act and that a "Certificate of Freedom of Disease" should be endorsed on such permit.
- (4) That where disease is found during the inspection referred to in 3 above, all affected equipment be destroyed and that a permit for removal be refused until a minimum period of six weeks has elapsed from the date of destruction of such infected equipment and a subsequent inspection has been made of the remainder and a "Certificate of Freedom of Disease" issued as in 3 above.
- (5) That returns of beekeepers as in 2 above be checked by subsequent inspection.
- (6) That records of inspections carried out by authorised Inspectors be cross-checked by subsequent occasional "spot-check" inspections by Senior Apiary Officers.
- (7) Where disease is detected by an inspector advice of its presence in the area be given to neighbouring beekeepers by the Department.

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- (8) DRUGS: It was decided to discuss with the Department reports on the use of drugs overseas for controlling Bacillus Larvae and to recommend that a joint statement be issued by the Department and the Executive following the joint meeting condemning the use of drugs and giving the reasons therefor.
  - (9) That Apiary Officers devote time solely to inspection in the four spring months.
  - (10) That where practicable commercial beekeepers be given prior notification of intended inspection by an Apiary Inspector.
  - (11) PROSECUTION: Department to be urged to prosecute in all cases of evasion of Regulations.
  - (12) That education on the responsibility of beekeepers in disease inspection, notification and eradication be given through the Journal of Agriculture and other Departmental publications as well as the "N.Z. Beekeeper."

It was decided to invite Mr A.M.W. Greig, Director of Horticulture, who would be chairing the joint meeting, to meet the Executive on the following morning with a view to reaching an agreement on the form that the meeting would take and the composition of the Agenda including the items desired by the Executive.

Considerable further discussion ensued on the disease problem in general until the meeting adjourned at 11.45 p.m.

RESUMPTION: The meeting resumed at 9.30 a.m. on Monday 16th October, 1961.

REPORT OF H.M.A. MEETING: At the request of members Mr J.R. Barber reported on the meeting of the Honey Marketing Authority held in Auckland in the previous week. Mr Barber gave a most full report on all matters covered by the Authority at its meeting but two matters in particular were debated at length by the Executive. These were (1) The final payout made by the Authority on last season's supply and the methods and reasoning adopted by the Authority in arriving at same and (2) The Authority's decision with regard to the N.B.A. application for an increased grant from Seals Funds as authorised by Conference and the principles and reasoning which had guided the Authority in making its decision.

H.M.A. PAYOUT: Messrs Bray and Penrose drew attention to the extreme concern felt by Canterbury and South Canterbury packers on learning of the Authority's final payout and stated their belief and the belief of packers that the Authority's decision to pay out 1/3d. per lb. on top white honies would put the private packers out of business as they could not possibly hope to compete for supplies of bulk honey at this figure. Messrs Fraser and Lorimer who are also members of the Honey Marketing Authority elaborated on the report previously given by Mr Barber and supported the decision which had been made by the Authority. Mr Fraser conceded however that the private packers could and no doubt would to some extent be embarrassed by the Authority's payout and maintained that this position would never have arisen had it not been for the opposition expressed by these same packers to the Association's and Authority's representations to Government for the freedom of honey from price control. He moved (Seconded Mr Lorimer) "That while in Wellington for this meeting the President, Vice President and General Secretary make approaches to the appropriate quarters for the immediate removal of price control."

AMENDMENT (Bray/Penrose) "That a deputation from the Executive wait upon the appropriate Authorities with representations for the inclusion of a new clause in the Price Order limiting the maximum price for bulk honey payable by a packer, including the H.M.A., to 1/2d. per lb." Considerable opposition was raised to this amendment by Mr J.W. Fraser and Mr Wheeler, Mr Fraser

maintaining that it was morally wrong for the Authority's payout to be limited to a price which a packer considered himself able or willing to pay. It was further pointed out that the payout made by the Authority was within the limitations imposed by the existing Price Order. After further discussion the amendment was put and LOST. Mr Penrose had given notice of a further amendment that the deputation referred to in the original motion include the whole Executive but this was opposed and finally lapsed for want of a seconder. After further discussion the original motion was put and CARRIED.

ING WITH DIRECTOR OF HORTICULTURE: Mr A.M.W. Greig, Director of Horticulture waited upon the Executive as requested and outlined his proposals for the conduct of a joint meeting on Bacillus Larvae to commence that afternoon. He also produced his draft agenda for the meeting which was discussed and general agreement was expressed by the Executive with the form of the meeting as planned by Mr Greig and the items for reference which he had covered in his agenda. He was thanked for his attendance and withdrew.

The meeting of the Executive adjourned at 1.00 p.m.

MPTION: The meeting resumed at 7.45 p.m. on Monday 16th October.

IRMATION OF MINUTES: RESOLVED (Lorimer/Bray) "That the minutes of the meeting held in Nelson on 24th July, 1961 copies of which had been circulated to members be taken as read and confirmed."

ERS ARISING FROM MINUTES: With regard to "tutu" and poisoned honey the Secretary reported on correspondence which he had had with both the Department of Agriculture and the Ministry of Works. Mr Lorimer advised on current investigations being made by both the Department of Agriculture and Soil Conservation Officers in the Taupo area. It was decided that the Secretary should also write to the D.S.I.R. Entomology Division with the request that they investigate the feasibility of introducing some insect or virus which would enable biological control of the "passion-vine-hopper" which was responsible for the production of a poisonous honey dew on the "tutu" plant. In connection with the addition of water to honey further correspondence to the Director General of Agriculture was read and approved. With regard to the confirmation of accounts for payment the Secretary advised that the Executive's agreement had been conveyed to the Auditor. Spraying of fruit trees with Honey Solution:- The Secretary reported on his negotiations with the Fruitgrowers Federation for publicity to be given to the danger to beekeeping through the spread of Bacillus Larvae disease by following this practice. Pollination Service Fee in Fruit Growing areas:- It was reported that information on pollination services rendered by bees had been given to the Fruitgrowers Federation for publication and that arrangements were being made for a meeting with Federation Officers to discuss a more workable and equitable system of remunerating beekeepers for the placement of hives in orchards for pollination purposes.

ERS ARISING FROM CONFERENCE: The General Secretary reviewed the action which he had taken to give effect to the various resolutions of Conference and some correspondence in this regard was read for the information of members. The question of further action in pursuing these matters was held over pending receipt of replies to representations already made.

.A. ELECTORS QUALIFICATIONS: The unsatisfactory position which had arisen prior to the recent Honey Marketing Authority elections with regard to the interpretation of the statutory regulations governing electors qualifications was discussed and it was RESOLVED (Fraser/Bray) "That the Minister be requested to have the Honey Marketing Authority election regulations re-drafted to provide the intended franchise for suppliers and seals purchasers based on an average of two years supplies of purchases." It was further RESOLVED (Bray/Fraser) "That representations be made to the appropriate Authorities to have the Honey Marketing Authority election regulations amended to permit packers to furnish a declaration of supply by a producer when requested to do so by a supplier."

GROUP DISCUSSIONS AT CONFERENCE: The Executive received and considered the following resolution from the Canterbury branch:-  
"That the Canterbury branch recommends to Executive that Conference be given the option to discuss any remit either by group discussion or by plenary session." After full discussion it was decided that the Secretary should write to the Canterbury branch explaining that the rights they requested are at present provided for under the normal procedure followed at Conference.

MEMBERSHIP EXTENSION: The Secretary reported that following Conference he had received an offer from Alliance Bee Supplies Co. Ltd. to include an information card on the Association services and an "application-for-membership-form" with price lists shortly to be despatched by that firm to all registered beekeepers. The Secretary advised that time had not permitted prior consultation with the Executive and he had therefore taken responsibility for authorising the Company to incur printing costs not exceeding £10 for such a purpose. He sought ratification of his actions. RESOLVED (Penrose/Lorimer) "That the Secretary's action be endorsed and that Alliance Bee Supplies Co. Ltd. be thanked for their generous assistance in this project."

APIARY INSURANCE: The General Secretary confirmed the result of his negotiations with the New Zealand Insurance Company as underwriters of the Association's Public Risk cover and advised that the new arrangements were now as follows:- Extent of cover raised from £500 to £5000 for any one claim. Cover extended to all members of the N.B.A. without special application as heretofore. Annual premium fixed at £33. 6. 0. instead of 1/- per apiary as heretofore. Franchise requiring payment of first £5 by the beekeeper is now waived. In addition to these concessions the Company had back-dated the new premium rate to the 1st June, 1959 with the result that the Association had received a return of premium totalling £74. 15. 0. which after deduction of the current years premium of £33. 6. 0. had resulted in a return payment from the Company of £41. 9. 0. Commenting on the position the Secretary drew attention to the fact that the Trust Fund established by the Association by the levy of an additional 3d. per apiary to meet the franchise clause in the old policy was now no longer required. The balance in the fund at the 31 May 1961 was £483. odd and premiums at the rate of 1/3d. per apiary was still coming to hand from members in the current year. It therefore now appeared that the Trust Fund was no longer required and the sum at credit should be available to the Association for other purposes. It was MOVED by Mr J.W. Fraser "That the amount at credit in the trust account at 31 May 1962 be transferred, at balance, to the credit of the General Account of the Association." He quoted rules 39, 40 and 41 as the Executive's Authority to act in the disbursement of such funds. There was some disagreement on this point however, other members believing that any decision in connection with the transfer of Trust Funds should be made by Conference. It was finally RESOLVED (Wheeler/Fraser) "That the legal position with regard to the disposal of Trust Funds following the winding up of the Trust Account be investigated and reported upon to the Executive."

FULL PUBLIC RISK AND OTHER INSURANCE: The General Secretary reported further upon his negotiations with the New Zealand Insurance Company to provide an extension of the existing Public Risk cover to meet all of a beekeeper's public liability other than that at present met in respect of injury to humans or livestock caused by bees. The Secretary was instructed to continue with the negotiations with a view to the Company placing firm proposals before the Executive. The Secretary advised that the Company was unable, through the limiting agreements operating between all Insurance Companies, to extend a direct Agency to the Association or to reduce the premium rates to members of the Association on all other types of cover included in the existing tariff agreements. The Company had however

expressed a willingness to provide the Association with free insurance advice and to this end was prepared to publish at its own cost a brochure available for distribution to all members setting out all the various classes and types of insurance available to beekeepers and of particular interest to them in their beekeeping occupation. They would do this without charge to the Association and without obligation for insurance through the New Zealand Insurance Company. The Secretary was directed to convey the Executive's thanks for such offer and its acceptance.

CE OF RESIGNATION: The General Secretary gave notice of his intention to resign his position as at 31 May 1962, the end of the Association's current financial year. He stated that he had been reluctantly forced to make this decision in view of the growing demands which the position had made on his time over the past several years in respect of which the existing salary of £500. 0. 0. was completely inadequate. He had deferred his decision for as long as possible realising that the Association did not possess the funds to meet a higher salary allowance. He pointed out that realising this he had made a point of acquainting members with the Association's financial requirements in the course of Conference's consideration of remit no. 2. this year and that as a result of that consideration members in Conference had decided to seek an additional sum of £2500 from the Honey Seals Levy to ensure the Associations continued functioning. The Honey Marketing Authority by its decision to grant only a £300 increase in the grant from the Seals Fund had now made it obvious to him that the Association would never be in a position to adequately improve its functioning in the service of members much less adequately remunerate its officers. Questioned as to the amount that he considered would be a proper remuneration the Secretary was reluctant to name a figure. He stated however that he personally would be unprepared to carry on unless the figure was raised to a minimum of £1000 p.a. In doing so he made the following points:-

1. The position now ~~required~~ <sup>demanding</sup> more than half of his own normal full time services.
2. That in addition to the provision of his own services he provided the Association with an office and all office facilities and the services of clerical assistants. From this point of view the term "salary" in relation to the position and remuneration was a misnomer and would be better regarded as "administration expenses". If for instance the Association shared the full time services of a Secretary with another primary industry organisation the true costs of a similar administrative service would become more apparent. These expenses would probably be as follows:-  $\frac{1}{2}$  Salary of Secretary £750, Half rent of suite of offices £208, Half of wages for Clerical Assistants £400, Half depreciation of plant, furniture and fittings £50, Half repairs and maintenance of plant £25, Half of phone rental, office cleaning, heating and lighting, insurances and miscellaneous £100, making a total of £1533. Members expressed their regret at the Secretary's decision but were sympathetic with his reasons. RESOLVED (Fraser/Lorimer) "That the position outlined by the Secretary be accepted and that he be thanked for his frankness."

Commenting, Mr J.W. Fraser said that the Executive should not at this stage accept the Secretary's resignation. The Authority's decision as regards the extra grant from the Seals Levy Fund was not final but subject to review in the light of extra receipts from the levy under the new methods of collection and on proof of real need by the Association. It was to be regretted he said that the Authority's consideration of further increases in the grant had been made more difficult by the action of vocal minorities in the Association who had not attended Conference and who had subsequently opposed the Conference decision with regard to an additional grant of £2500 from the Seals Fund. He considered that no further action should be taken until the Executive's February meeting, by which time prospects of improvement in the Association's finances might be better known.

The meeting was adjourned at 11.30 p.m.

RESUMPTION: Tuesday 17 October at 8.30 p.m. (Mr Lorimer had been obliged to return to Hamilton and was not present during the consideration of any of the following business.)

B.A. REPRESENTATION ON H.M.A.: Mr J.W. Fraser referred to a discussion which he had had with Mr Lorimer and the Chairman, Mr Barber, concerning the

position which had arisen this year on the Honey Marketing Authority following Mr Lorimer's unopposed election to that office. The position now was that of four producer-members serving on the Honey Marketing Authority, three were also Executive members of the Association. i.e. Messrs Fraser, Barber and Lorimer. Although Executive members did divorce themselves from outside considerations when sitting as members of the Authority he felt that many honey producers would believe that the Authority's decisions were being dictated by the Association's Executive and that this could weaken the respect and trust which producers had in each organisation. He acquainted the Executive with the fact that Mr Lorimer and himself were prepared to resign their position on the Association's Executive to correct this position. They desired the Executive to consider which member should stand down, bearing in mind possible replacements by nomination to the Executive, which would be affected by the fact that such replacement would have to be on the same basis of island representation. Members discussed the position and possible alternatives at some length. Mr Bray stated that both Messrs Fraser and Lorimer were to be commended for their unselfish attitude to the problem but considered that the decision as to which one if any was to vacate his position on the Executive was a matter for the two persons concerned to decide rather than for the Executive. It was agreed to leave the matter in abeyance for members to consider overnight before the meeting resumed the following morning.

BANK SERVICE FEE: The Secretary reported receipt of a resolution from the South Auckland Branch of the Association requesting that an immediate protest be entered against the action of banks in imposing a "service fee" on overdraft accounts. The resolution had been supported in subsequent correspondence from the President and Vice President of the Association. The Secretary stated that he had interpreted the resolution of the branch as a request for a protest to be made to Government on the matter but in the course of inquiries which he had made, he had established that the new service fee was neither inspired by nor authorised by Government. The move had been made by the Associated Banks of New Zealand as a counter to Government controls and earning rates and he produced an article by the Auckland Branch of the Constitutional Society of New Zealand which supported this view. In the circumstances he had taken no action to date and now sought from the Executive a direction as to whether an objection should be lodged to the Associated Banks. RESOLVED (Fraser/Bray) "That the Secretary write to the Associated Banks entering the strongest possible protest over the imposition of the overdraft service fee."

ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT: The Secretary tabled a schedule of accounts which required to be passed for payment and vouchers for same. RESOLVED (Fraser/Bray) "That vouchers as tabled totalling £365. 0. 2. represented by vouchers nos. 781 to 794 inclusive be passed for payment."

OPERATION OF BANKING ACCOUNT: RESOLVED (Bray/Penrose) "That in terms of the Executives previous resolution authorising the operation of the Association's banking account by the General Secretary and any one member of the Executive that a new list of signatories and their specimen signatures be supplied to the Bank of New Zealand, Foxton in respect of the current personnel of the Executive and that the Authority for the previous list of signatories be accordingly counter-manded."

JOURNAL ARTICLE ON AVENUES AVAILABLE FOR SALE OF HONEY: In line with the Executives previous instruction that the Editor prepare an article for the Journal drawing attention to various economic factors which producers should bear in mind before embarking on packing operations for retail sale, the Editor tabled a draft of the article which he had prepared in this regard. The draft article was discussed briefly and after minor amendment was approved for publication in the November issue of the Journal.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 11 p.m.

N.B.A. REPRESENTATION ON H.M.A.: Mr J.W. Fraser advised that after overnight thought following the Executive's discussion on the previous night, the question of his own or Mr Lorimers resignation from the Executive would be deferred meantime.

ASSOCIATION PROGRAMME EXTENSION: Mr J.W. Fraser drew attention to the Conference resolution requesting an extension in programmes to cover the following needs:-

- (1) Courses run on practical beekeeping.
- (2) A national honey promotion programme each year.
- (3) Bursaries and Field Scholarships to be provided.
- (4) Additional research sponsored by the Association.
- (5) Public Relations and publicity activities.
- (6) Internal association re-organisation including:-
  - (a) Greater accent on education.
  - (b) Membership extension.
  - (c) Wider activities and greater member participation.
  - (d) Leadership training.
- (7) Membership of International Beekeeping Organisation and participation in International honey affairs.

Although he acknowledged that the Association did not at the present time have the finance to enable the implementation of such programmes he considered that the Executive should carry out the initial investigation of these projects and endeavour to produce a scheme plan which would permit of their implementation when funds did in fact become available. He advised that the Honey Marketing Authority had indicated its willingness to re-consider the question of an extra grant to the Association in line with Conferences request when it was satisfied as to the feasibility of the programmes, and the extra grant of £300 which they made in this year was in fact made on the understanding that it would provide at least the amount necessary for initial investigation. In the course of discussion the General Secretary maintained that the success of all programmes depended on the extent of member participation and the assumption of a sense of individual responsibility by all beekeepers coupled with an enthusiasm born of a sense of personal achievement. From this point of view a re-organisation of branch functioning was of prime importance. Branch management methods should be changed to give the rank and file members a greater degree of self expression and a chance to take part in, if not to lead, the investigation, planning and operation of project activity. The biggest barrier in the way of re-organised branch functioning was lack of understanding of the methods to be employed and a possible fear on the part of Branch Officers that their positions could be undermined. It was essential that proposals for re-organisation be properly introduced to branches at a special session to overcome these misunderstandings and to demonstrate the degree to which functioning could be improved by the use of new methods. At the end of the introductory sessions, members should have the chance to choose themselves whether or not they felt that the use of new methods would improve their functioning and whether they desired to make a change. The job of conducting the introductory sessions was in itself a specialised one which would require a considerable amount of preparation. Also a fairly comprehensive reference manual would have to be prepared to assist branches in the progressive running of affairs under the new system of management.

Lengthy discussion ensued on all facets of the proposed extension programme. Members agreed that the Secretary was possibly the only person in the Association with sufficient detailed understanding of the new methods to be able to plan and introduce their use. The Secretary said that he had a particular desire to see a re-organisation of branch procedures achieved before he left the Associations employ next year. As a result of further discussion on all facets of programme extension the following resolutions were carried:- RESOLVED (Fraser/Bray) "That the Executive approves in principle, visits by the General Secretary to branches of the Association for the purpose of introducing new programmes for branch operation." RESOLVED (Fraser/Bray) "That the General Secretary be authorised to proceed with the preparation of material necessary for the introduction

of branch re-organisation with a cost allowance for outwork expenses, material and his own time not exceeding \$100."

RESOLVED (Barber/Wheeler) "That Mr J.W. Fraser be appointed co-ordinator for initial investigation of "Courses in Practical Bee-keeping." Further that Mr T.S. Wheeler be appointed co-ordinator to carry out initial investigations into the provision of "Bursaries for Overseas Study" on beekeeping problems and further that each Co-ordinator seek the assistance of his own branch to aid in the planning and organisation of such investigations. Overall control to rest with the General Secretary and all correspondence and communications with outside agencies to be channelled through Head Office."

RESOLVED (Fraser/Penrose) "That the Editor be authorised to investigate in conjunction with the Otago Branch the full implications of participation in the international beekeeping organisation "Apimondia."

SUBMISSIONS TO ROYAL COMMISSION ON STATE SERVICES: As a result of discussion the Executive decided that the General Secretary make submissions to the "Royal Commission on State Services" with particular reference to the importance of administrative changes, conditions and status of apiary section personnel, importance of beekeeping in agriculture, and close consultation and understanding between the Department and the Industry.

MEETING WITH SECRETARY OF PRICE CONTROL DIVISION: At 2 p.m. Messrs Bray, J.W. Fraser, Barber and the General Secretary waited upon Mr. Tuohy of the Price Control Division acquainting him with the concern felt by producer-packers at the rise in the Authority's payout for high grade bulk honey and requesting further consideration for the de-control of honey prices. Following this meeting the Executive again met briefly and it was decided that the Secretary write to the Minister of Industries & Commerce reiterating the Executive's request for decontrol and its reasons therefore and explaining the reasoning behind Conference resolution that honey be not decontrolled.

FRUITGROWERS AND POLLINATION SERVICE FEE: At 3 p.m. the Executive received Mr McLaren of the N.Z. Fruitgrowers Federation by invitation, to discuss the problem existing in the Nelson province where commercial beekeeping is gradually disappearing and is in danger of extinction. The need for fruitgrowers to take a more realistic view in recompensing beekeepers for the services they provide in placing apiaries specially in orchards for pollination purposes was stressed. A very full and frank discussion ensued and at the end of the meeting it was decided that the Secretary write to the Federation confirming it's suggestions for an improved pollination service for fruitgrowers and a scheme for more equitable payment of beekeepers in the area who provided the service.

The meeting finally terminated at 3.45. p.m.

CONFIRMED

DATE

21st March 1962.

CHAIRMAN

J. R. Barber